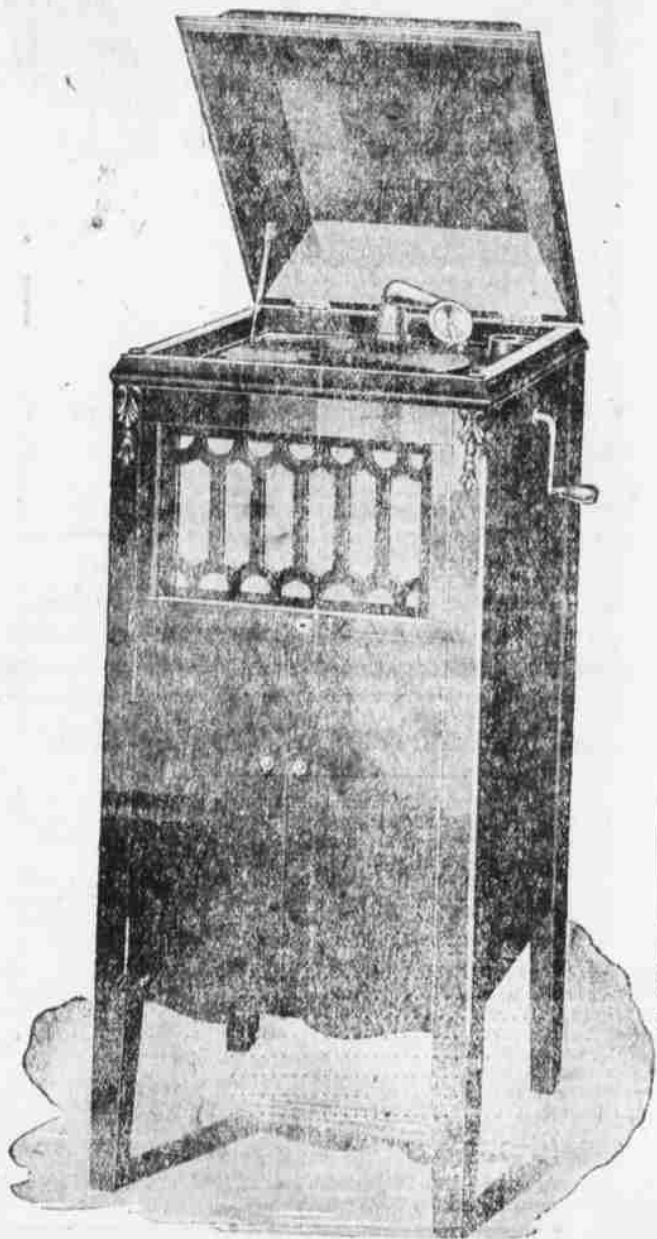


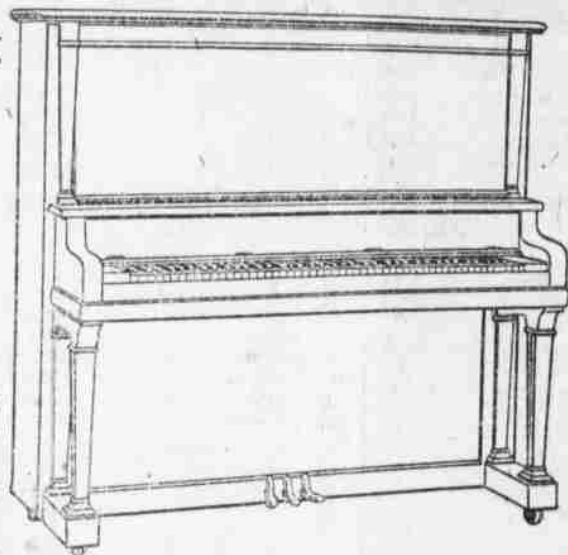
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THE NATION'S MOTTO:

"Save the Waste and Win the War."

IF THE GERMANS
HAD IRRIGATED

Irrigation, if it had been employed, would have given Germany the ample food supply that she admittedly does not now possess. As the publicity agent of one of the great pump companies is reported to have put it, rather strongly: "If the Germans had thoroughly understood irrigation, they would not be starving." This quotation is used by Engineering and Contracting (Chicago), as the heading of a brief article, most of which we quote below. The pump man went on to state, so we are told, that the potato crops in Germany have been subnormal since the war started, and that the shortage has been due to insufficient rainfall. With irrigation, as has been demonstrated in America, not only is a crop insured, but its abundance is increased. The writer goes on:

"In many cases the yield of potatoes per acre has been doubled by irrigation. In all cases the yield has been very materially greater as a result of irrigation, even in so-called humid districts. Apparently the Germans have not fully appreciated the worth of American experience in irrigating garden truck—potatoes, etc.—or they would have spent more time making pumps and pipes than making Zeppelins.

"In a nutshell, this expert of a big pumping company—a man who has been gathering irrigation data for years—asserts that a campaign of irrigation in Germany, even if begun after the war started, might have entirely changed the outcome of the war. We must admit that there is more than mere speculation back of

this suggestion. In fact, the evidence all points toward the soundness of the contention that irrigation of German crops would have so increased the yield as to have eliminated the present shortage of food.

"It should be remembered that America leads the world in agriculture, and that in irrigation by pumping its leadership is unquestioned even by those who insist that America is behind Europe in 'intensive farming.' By the sophisticated method of comparing our average yield of grain per acre with that in Europe, it has been frequently attempted to prove that America has much to learn in agriculture from Europe. But the fact is that not the yield per acre but the cost per bushel should be the final criterion of efficiency in grain production. Judged by that criterion, America has led every nation on earth ever since McCormick developed his first harvester."—Literary Digest.

FOOD AND WAR

Shortage in Raw Materials Gives Rise to Alarm Among Manufacturing Interests—America Must Apply Every Resource to Meet World's Demand for Food—Labor Saving Machines and Man Power on the Farms Vital Factors in Economic Crisis—Appeal for Government Action.

Government action ensuring the farmers of America ample supplies of farm implements and competent farm labor is virtually necessary to this country's future participation in the war, declare the manufacturers of farming tools and machinery in the United States. This action must be immediate and radical, they say, or in 1918 the United States will fail to produce foodstuffs necessary to feed the civil population of our allies and to keep the allied armies in fighting trim.

This declaration is made in a public statement by the National Implement and Vehicle Association, whose members manufacture most of the farming implements used in and exported from the United States. It is the Association's answer to an anxious inquiry about reports of a prospective implement shortage addressed to it in behalf of the country's farming interests by ex-Governor W. D. Hoard of Wisconsin, one of the leaders of American agriculture and publisher of Hoard's Dairyman. The statement, which is signed by Charles S. Brantingham, Chairman of the Association's Executive Committee, says:

"Unless prompt action is taken by the Government, our country will make the same mistakes that have resulted in compelling our allies to appeal to us to save them from famine. Unless we protect the production of labor-saving farm machinery and the supply of skilled farm labor we, too,

must soon face a shrinkage of food supplies.

Without such action as is here suggested and urged, the farmers of the United States will not have enough machines or men in 1918 to meet the demands upon them.

"We are now confronted by shortages of raw material and factory labor that will begin to be manifest in shortages of certain lines of farm machinery this fall and will result in serious shortages in many vital lines next year. Stocks on hand in important kinds of tools and machines are smaller than in normal years, because of earlier scarcity of factory labor and a rapidly tightening scarcity of all raw materials.

"Farmers have deferred during the last three years the replacing of old and badly worn tools and machines. Now, confronted by the practical certainty that the war is to continue indefinitely, with attendant assurance of a heavy demand and high prices for all their products, and by an inevitable shortage of farm labor, they cannot put off longer replacements of worn out machines and the additions to equipment necessary to increase acreage and production.

"It is also essential in meeting the demand of the farmers for implements that there shall be preference in transportation for raw materials to the factories and for finished goods from the factories to the farms.

"For the last ten years farm labor has been more and more difficult to secure, and now with an enormous increase in the demand for labor in munitions factories, and the withdrawal of many young men from productive occupations, there is bound to be a shortage of farm labor such as this country has never known. In Kansas alone a vast number of fertile acres on which the wheat crop failed will lie idle this summer, chiefly for lack of labor and partly through lack of machines to replant to corn.

"We regard it as vital to keep on the farms the men now there who know the business, especially the men trained in the use of labor-saving machinery. It would be wasteful and foolish to let them go and afterward try to replace them with unskilled men.

"We seek no advantage for our industry over any other, but we realize and we want the public to realize that without this product and without sufficient labor the farmers of the United States cannot increase or even maintain their production of foodstuffs next year. To avert the calamity that such a condition will surely produce, our industry and the farming industry which it chiefly supports must be put upon the same preferred basis as the making of war munitions, even if other less vital industries suffer thereby for materials and men.

"These are the measures that we declare to be vital to the feeding of this nation and its allies next year:

"1. That the manufacture of farm materials be given equal preference with the manufacture of war munitions as regards supplies of necessary raw materials.

"2. That service to the country in farm machinery factories be considered of equal importance with service in munition making plants, Government or private.

"3. That labor on the farms be considered as of equal importance with the production of war munitions.

"4. That the raw materials for farming machinery and the finished goods be given equal preference by the transportation agencies of the country with munitions of war.

"These measures must be taken immediately to be effective, because the use and demand for farming machinery are seasonal. We must have right now materials and the men to make the farm machinery that the farmer at home and abroad must use this Fall and next Spring. Delay in action will be as disastrous as failure to act at all."

ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE

Scotland the Home of the Black Skins.

First Record of Them From the "Land of Brown Heath and Shaggy Wood."



Hornless cattle existed in the earliest age to which we can trace the bovine. When man was a savage and a hunter, but yet an artist, there existed a finely formed polled race of cattle as depicted on the walls of the caverns—the homes of the oldest of men. In the period when Britain was continuous with the continent and was the land's end of Europe the polled cattle strayed throughout its nooks and corners. Fossil and semi-fossil remains, found in Scotland, establish the fact of the prehistoric existence of wild polled cattle in those very districts occupied by the ancestors of the present Aberdeen-Angus breed. King Kenneth MacAlpine of Scotland, when promulgating the laws at Perthshire, specifically mentions "black homy" cattle, which is the first historical reference to the breed we have.

Memorial stones erected by the native Scots in commemoration of their repulse of invading Norsemen, and now found at Aldbar and Meikle in Forfarshire, and Burghhead in Morayshire, certainly depict the "hornless cattle of the country." Kenneth's laws applied to the region that became the early seat of the Aberdeen-Angus breed, and there is documentary evidence to show that in 1523 the black homy cattle occurred in Aberdeenshire, but the first specific mention of polled animals of the breed is that of the prize-winning "black humble," exhibited in 1811 from a well known Aberdeenshire source, the influence of which on the breed is still felt. These concentrated facts prove that the Aberdeen-Angus is the oldest polled breed—in Britain at least—and accounts for its extraordinary prepotence in transmitting its color and hornless character.

At a very early date, history tells, they had fairs in Scotland where breeders disposed of their surplus stock, and it was easily snapped up by English graziers. Englishmen—always great beef eaters—found that their choicest meats came from the Scottish side of the border, and it was while this trade was at its height, in the middle and latter portions of the 18th century, that authentic record was made of the breed's progress in Aberdeenshire, Angusshire, Kincardineshire and Morayshire. In Aberdeenshire we find the breed described as having been "improved" by putting the best males to the best females, rules being laid down for breeding both for beef and the dairy, which proves the breed to have been originally what we term a dual-purpose one.

The breeds of Aberdeenshire are fully described and innumerable descriptions are given of the fine specimens killed in the City of Aberdeen. The butchers or fashers there had their own guild and were men of a high class, and among them particular mention is made of the Williamsons of St. John's Wells and Robert Walker of Wester Fintray. Both were breeders, though the Williamsons were the largest dealers in Scotland, their only rival being, as we are told, Charles McCombie of Tillyfour.

Hugh Watson made the first great exhibit of the black polls at Perth show in 1820. Mr. Watson also showed the only Angus steers exhibited, one pair bred by himself, the other by Mr. Johnstone. Mr. Watson also exhibited at Kelsae in 1832; Aberdeen in 1834; Perth, 1836; Dundee, 1843; Inverness, 1846, and lastly at Perth, 1852.

Being at this time well established as a national breed, it was felt that a trip abroad would extend its fame, and its first foreign exhibition was at the Paris International Exhibition of 1856, where it was shown in considerable strength. This was the show at which Charlotte and Hanton, shown by Mr. McCombie, made such an impression on the judges that they wrote the following:

"The specimens of this breed possess the following characteristic points: Perfect homogeneity of race, beauty, richness and regularity of

form, softness of skin, mellowness in handling; the whole united to a muscular system sufficiently developed. They presented, besides, a considerable mass of flesh, supported by a comparatively small volume of bone. We are aware, besides, that the breed joins sobriety to a great aptitude to fatten, and that it supplies the butcher's stall with beef of much esteemed quality; that it produces milk in satisfactory quantity, is of sweet temper, and is also endowed with prolific qualities."

Dutrone, writing 22 years later, after the crowning event of 1878, says: "I well remember the stately masses of the polled cattle, drawn up in a black and imposing array, even and level, as if the chisel of the sculptor had been piled over their grandly fleshed frames."

(Third of a series of articles on the purebred cattle industry, containing facts and figures of striking importance and value to every farmer and stock raiser. For free illustrated literature, history, show records and list of American Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' Association members, address Chas. Gray, Secy., Record Bldg., Union Stock Yards, Chicago.)

It is a beautiful thought that the American nation now is in position to pay and is actually engaged in paying a debt of honor and gratitude of long standing to the people of France. Almost a century and a half ago the French Government heeded the call of liberty and dispatched numbers of her bravest troops to America and with the aid they rendered the struggling colonies were able to throw off the shackles of arrogant, tyrannical England. Until the present time we have had no opportunity to repay in similar method the service rendered, but now America has gone to the rescue of a bleeding and well nigh exhausted France and with the aid of the other allies will succeed in removing the heel of the German tyrant from her neck. Great Britain, who was then the foe of both nations, now is allied in the cause of liberty and the maintenance of the traditions of civilization, which is but an added instance of the peculiar manner in which history associates peoples from time to time.—Caruthersville Democrat.

As the only man of prominence in Chicago who did not buy a Liberty Bond, Mayor Thompson should receive the iron cross from the Kaiser.

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